

16. *Patalake chatapa cheveru riya gabhathabhe pati pa . yati panatanusata .... raja .. riya la machhinen cha choyatha agisati katuriyam napádachhati agama rájá sava tha rájá saresera .... ma rájá pasato sati te apa dha ji da .... lañoni.*

17. *Vi ronovise kusalo sava pásanða pújano (8) chha (3) kárakára (3).. pati patalakiváhani bálevákadharagata chano ghavata chako rájásanka laviná ravato mahavijaya rájá khárvéla sandaru.*

VIII.—*Memorandum regarding specimens from Seoní Chupara, Pl. LVI.*

*By D. W. McLEOD, Esq.*

The accompanying minerals were collected by me during a tour through the district, wherever I met with projecting rocks or veins ; but not being sufficient geologist accurately to identify them all, I have contented myself with attaching numbers to each, corresponding with those on the accompanying sketch map, so that the site of each may be identified.

The greater portion of the district forms a part of the *Sutpara* range up to its junction with the *Vindhya* at the source of the *Nerbudda*, and its character in this part would appear to be a basis of primitive rock (projecting to the southward where it forms cliffs, in many places of several hundred feet in height), overlaid by basalt, and that again very frequently by laterite. The magnesian limestone appears in some parts at the surface in veins of considerable magnitude; and other rocks in various parts may doubtless be found intersecting the basalt; but the three descriptions of rock above noted undoubtedly form the main features of the entire tract.

The southern purgunnahs of the district lying below the cliffs alluded to above, are formed I believe, entirely of the detritus from the primitive ranges, being a silicious clay increasing in richness in proportion to its remoteness from the cliffs and vicinity to the *Máyá Gangá* river; below the upper soils, clays and limes of different characters occur, and veins of laterite and other rocks occasionally make their appearance at the surface, and in one part an apparently very rich vein of black iron ore (mistaken by the natives for antimony, and called by them *Súrma*), of which a specimen will be found amongst the accompanying.

The principal character of the district above the Ghâts is that of table land, intersected by numerous ranges of hills, and abrupt ascents and descents. The abundance of moisture in the more eastern portion is perhaps its most remarkable feature, and this characteristic appears to become more fully developed in proportion as the elevation increases until we reach the highest point of all *Amarkantak*, in the vicinity of which the *Laú*, *Mahánadí*, and *Nerbuddá*, flowing north, west, and

south-east all take their rise. While traversing this tract in May of last year, I found wherever there was any declivity so that moisture could lodge, green grass of two or three feet in height; and cattle sent thither from the breeding purgunnahs hundreds of miles distant in the month of March, return in June in the finest condition. The tract in question is at present almost unpeopled; but it appears to possess the finest capabilities were they developed by the application of capital and industry. The silicious clay, and iron clay soils, which constitute the greater part of it are admirably calculated for irrigation, (the former in particular,) yielding both rain and spring crops; and trees thrive in them with a vigour which can scarcely be surpassed. The basaltic soil also yields very fine Rubbee crops for several successive crops: but owing to the avidity with which it absorbs moisture, irrigation has not been applied to it. The appearance of the country is highly interesting; and well worthy, I conceive, of greater attention than capitalists have hitherto paid it.

The purgunnahs below the Ghât, however, are at present by far the most highly cultivated, tanks having been formed in every village for irrigation, and the population being dense and prosperous. This is attributable no doubt originally to the predatory habits of the *Gonds* inhabiting the higher tracts, who in former times effectually prevented the progress of civilization and industry, and latterly other causes may likewise have been in operation, tending to the same result. At present the principal products of those portions inhabited by *Gonds* are tussur, lac, wax, honey, catechu, dammer and other produce of the sâl, teak, and other forests which abound; though in parts here and there the cultivation carried on by them is by no means inconsiderable.

[The minerals are deposited in the museum, numbered to refer to the accompanying plate.—Ed.]

#### IX.—*Proceedings of the Asiatic Society.*

*Anniversary Meeting, Wednesday Evening the 3rd January, 1838.*

H. T. PRINSEP, Esq. Vice-President, in the chair.

J. H. BATTEN, Esq. C. S. Baboo CONOY LALL TAGORE and CHARLES ELLIOT BARWELL, Esq. were elected members.

Major W. H. SLEEMAN, was proposed by the Secretary, and seconded by Mr. D. McLEOD.

J. W. GRANT, Esq. proposed by Dr. McCLELLAND, seconded by the Secretary.

Mr. G. A. PRINSEP, proposed by Mr. CRACROFT, seconded by Captain FORBES.

Assistant Surgeon J. ARNOTT, M. D. proposed by J. HILL, Esq. seconded by the Secretary.